

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 19, 2009

The Honorable Ron Kirk
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Kirk:

We are strong supporters of successfully concluding a comprehensive Environmental Goods and Services Agreement (EGSA) within the Doha Development Round of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations and encourage you to take the opportunity that the upcoming WTO Ministerial and other forums provide to seek to advance these negotiations, including through a plurilateral agreement.

As our trading partners seek to rapidly reduce their own emissions of greenhouse gases and their demand for products that facilitate these efforts grow exponentially, there is a significant opportunity for American innovators and producers to take advantage of these growing foreign markets. The immediate benefits to the environment and to economic growth if trade in these technologies is liberalized are significant in part because these U.S.-produced green goods face disproportionately high tariffs in foreign markets. Eliminating these tariffs will develop large, sustainable export markets to goods that are designed and manufactured in the U.S., whether they are solar panels from Oregon, organic insulation produced in Idaho, hybrid engines from Michigan, or advanced batteries from Massachusetts. Our long-standing domestic effort to promote the deployment of renewable energy technology and energy efficiency has positioned U.S. innovators and producers with an opportunity to take advantage of increasing foreign demand for these products. We cannot let this opportunity pass us by.

A quick conclusion and implementation of a plurilateral agreement on environmental goods, with countries that are appropriate to seek such an agreement, is a means by which we can kick-start export-led economic growth that will put Americans back to work in good-paying jobs. We believe that this type of initiative, targeted at trade partners that are faithful to their international commitments on trade, investment, labor, and the environment, would have bipartisan support in Congress. We welcome a further discussion with you as you prepare for the Ministerial and other venues where this issue may be addressed.

Sincerely,



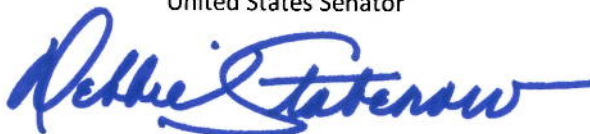
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



John Kerry
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Mike Crapo
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